

REMARKS

In light of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

At paragraphs 1 and 2 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the Oath and Declaration. Applicant is currently obtaining a new Oath and Declaration from the Inventor, and will submit this Oath and Declaration upon receipt.

At paragraph 3 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the drawings. By the accompanying Request for Approval of Drawing Changes, Applicant has requested the addition of the --Prior Art-- legend to Figs. 1A, 1B and 1C. Applicant therefore requests that the objection to these claims be withdrawn.

At paragraph 4 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the application as not containing an Abstract. Applicant has provided an Abstract herein, and therefore requests that the objection to the specification on this ground be withdrawn.

At paragraphs 7-8 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 23-26 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner complains that claim 23 is written in an independent claim format, but appears that the claim is attempting to incorporate subject matter from claims 1-22. Applicant submits that claim 23, as an independent claim, stands on its own, and presents an appropriate claim. Applicant therefore requests that claim 23 be examined on the merits as it currently stands.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-22. To the extent the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should

be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicant's attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicant's contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicant of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicant, by his attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has made a diligent effort to place claims 1-26 in condition for allowance, and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner is unable to issue a Notice of Allowance regarding these claims, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney in order to discuss any further outstanding issues.

Early and favorable consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

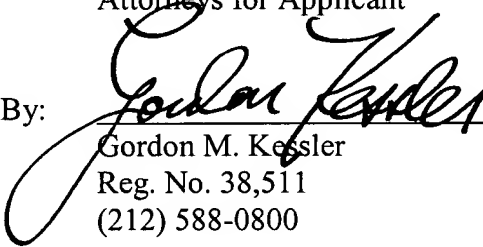

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Fig. 1A
PRIOR ART

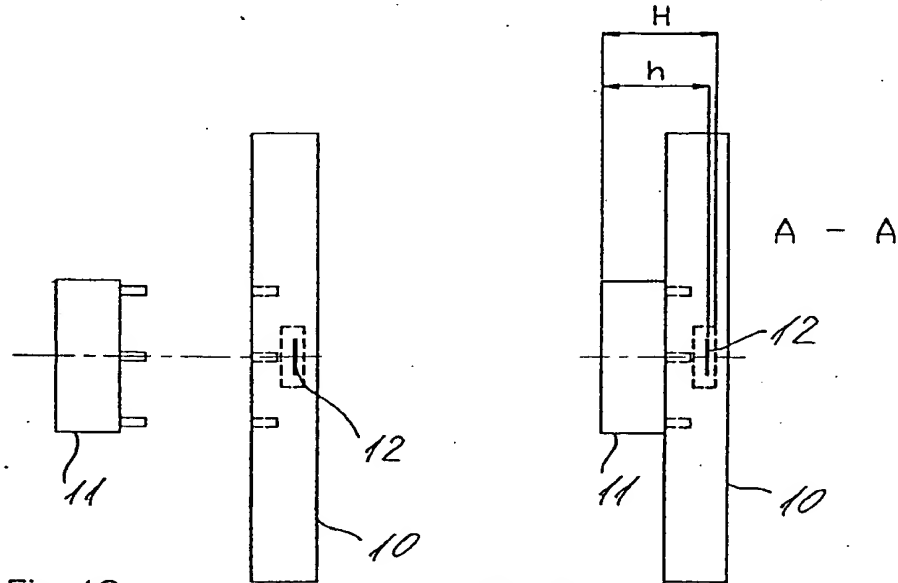
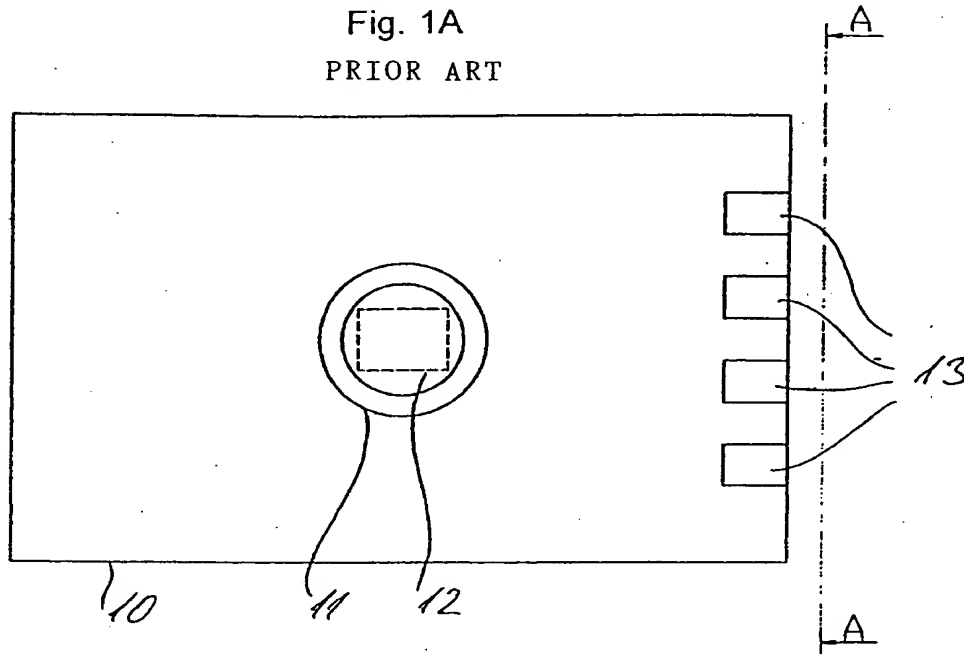


Fig. 1C
PRIOR ART

Fig. 1B
PRIOR ART